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GENERAL

1. US views on anti-US restrictions by Satellites--The Department of State has expressed to US Embassy Prague, in an analysis of current US-Satellite relations, the view that recent anti-US restrictions in Czechoslovakia are part of a general pattern under "central direction" with the intent of reducing Satellite contacts with the West to an absolute minimum. The Department suggests that if this interpretation is correct, a stormy period ahead may be anticipated, with added difficulties and obstruction in Czechoslovakia and the other Satellite countries and a consequent deterioration in US-Satellite relations. The Department declares that in devising tactics to counter this attempt to reduce US operations or possibly to drive the US out of Czechoslovakia, the paramount objective must be to maintain contact with the Czechoslovak people. The Department points out that this consideration may make the US reluctant on occasion to take strong action which might seriously impair this contact.

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State Dept. review completed

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